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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Nobumasa SUZUKI et al.

Group Art Unit: 3733

Appln. No: 10/659,297

Examiner: Pedro PHILOGENE

Filed: September 11, 2003

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For: ROD CONNECTOR

*Approved for Entry 3/1/06 Pfr*

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## RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action of October 13, 2005, in which a three-month shortened statutory period for response has been extended by a one-month extension of time fee to expire on February 13, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Final Official Action in view of the herein contained amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 4 of this Response.